THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 6235. *THURSDAY, Dec.* 16, 1841. *Price* 1*d.*

" The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

YESTERDAY evening *Court and City, The United Service,* and *The Wooden Leg,* again attracted a numerous audience to this Theatre.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

LAST evening, the entertainments were *A Cure for the Heart Ache, St. Mary's Eve,* and *The Boarding School.*

DRURY LANE THEATRE.

The correct title of the new Christmas Pantomime, to be produced at this house on the opening night, Monday, the 27th instant, is *Harlequin and Duke Humphrey's Dinner, or, Jack Cade, the Lord of London Stone. Shylock* will commence the evening's entertainments. " God Save the Queen," will be sung previously to the Play, by Messrs. H. Phillips, Giubilei, Allen, &c. Miss Romer, Miss Poole, Miss Gould, Mrs. Serle, Miss Turpin, &c. On Tuesday, *Every One has his Fault* will be performed, on Wednesday, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona.* In preparation, Handel's Opera of *Acis and Galatea,* which will be followed by the revivals of Milton's Masque of *Comus,* and Dryden's Opera of *King Arthur,* composed by Purcell. A new Play, in five acts, by the author of " The Collegians," and a new Drama, in two acts, by Douglas Jerrold, are also preparing for representation.

The late Alderman Birch, who expired last week, was an author of no mean reputation. *The Adopted Child* emanated from his pen, and he wrote a very successful Drama, entitled *The Smuggler,* in which Jack Bannister sustained the principal character.

Norma.—Bellini composed his *Norma* some ten years ago, expressly for Pasta, Grisi, and Donzelli, and Pasta was the first who represented *Norma,* at her Majesty's Theatre. Pasta has frequently sustained the part since 1836. Malibran created quite a sensation at Naples in 1834 by her excellent performance of the character, and she was called forward the first night ten times; and when she played it at Milan in 1835, she was obliged to come forward eighteen times the first night. Poor Bellini died on the 23rd of September, 1835, and on that day twelvemonths Malibran breathed her last. In 1837, an English version of *Norma* (by Planché, we believe,) was brought out at Drury-lane, and the principal part was undertaken by Madame Schroeder Devrient; but Bellini's music was of too light a character for the German cantatrice, so a comparative failure was the result, notwithstanding her fine conception of the part as far as acting went.

Buckstone remains in America till early in the spring, when he appears, at the commencement of next season, at the Haymarket. He has been up and down the Mississippi, the Ohio, the St. Lawrence, on all the lakes, through Canada, and has visited every great city in the United States; he expresses himself delighted with all he has seen, and the reception he has everywhere met with; his success has been beyond his expectations. He has been acting in *London Assurance* at the National

E. & J. THOMAS, Printers, Russell Court, Brydges-st., Covent Garden.

Theatre, Philadelphia, where the manager produced it with a powerful cast, Browne, (formerly of Drury Lane,) *Sir Harcourt*, Burton, (the manager,) *Muddle*, J. Wallack, jun. *Dazzle*, Buckstone, *Dolly Spanker*, Miss Josephine Clifton, *Lady Gay*, and Mrs. Fitzwilliam, *Grace Harkaway*. The contrast between the magnificent Josephine and Buckstone has been the source of much fun. The houses have been nightly crowded. Mrs. Fitzwilliam is still received with enthusiasm, and is considered the best English star now in America. When she acts in conjunction with Buckstone, they receive a clear half of each night's receipts, being the greatest terms ever given, and which have been commanded but by few. She contemplates a trip to the West Indies.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer,

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.—

Monday, stroll to MADAME TUSSAUD'S elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker Street, Portman Square.—Just added to her unrivalled collection the celebrated Coronation Robes of his late Majesty George IVth., which cost the enormous sum of 18,000*l* (embroidered by the Messrs. Holbecks,) which far surpass in magnificence anything ever worn by a British Monarch—A Room, &c. has been fitted up to correspond in splendor. Brave Napier is also to be seen here.

Tuesday, pop into the Somerset Gallery, 151, Strand, next door to Somerset House, to see a most wonderful Exhibition, *The Industrious Fleas*. They dance, ride, drive a four-in-hand, fight, and in fact do everything in first rate style, exciting the admiration of all present. By the bye, this is Signor Bertolotto's Exhibition, that has been exhibited for the last eight years.

You may talk of eye snuff, but after having the head-ache for a year, popped into PERRING'S, 85, Strand. got one of his superb Beavers, so light lost the head-ache in a minute—Mrs.P. instantly purchased a lot of his fashioaableBeaverBonnets elegant and quite the *ton*—must patronize PERRING.

Wednesday, called upon Messrs. COCKS & Co. Her Majesty's musicsellers, 20, Princes-street, Hanover-square—found they had just published a musical present, Handel's "Messiab," composed in the year 1741.—with the vocal parts complete, and most of the instrumental parts, (including those added by Mozart,) contained in an accompaniment for the Pianoforte or Organ, newly arranged by John Bishop, in one elegant volume, folio size, whole cloth boards, price only 15s. Of whom may be had *gratis* and *postage free* a list of musical works admirably calculated for presents or for musical students.

Intend paying another visit to the THAMES TUNNEL as it will be shortly closed to the public, in order to make the necessary preparations for opening it as a thoroughfare for foot passengers. It is open daily, (Sunday excepted) from 9 in the morning until 6 in the evening, and brilliantly lighted with gas. The present entrance is on the Surrey side of the river, close to Rotherhithe Church. The length of the Tunnel now is 1,176 feet—Admittance 1s.

Must visit DUFF and HODGSON, 65, Oxford-street, to purchase a variety of new Songs which they have just published—"I would I were a boy again," sung by M. Giubilei. "Moderate Terms" comp. & sung by J. Parry, jun. "Sweet Queen of the Night," sung by Mrs. Waylett, &c. &c.—most beautiful compositions.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS'S Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden, quite delighted with the excellence of the singing—commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Afterwards called at EMMETT'S, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker, by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute! also his improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street,—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

Saturday, I examine MISS LINWOOD'S curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—lately added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's, &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, BELLINI's Opera of

NORMA.

The Overture Composed by C. RAPER, Esq.

CONDUCTOR, ... MR. BENEDICT

The Chorusses under the Direction of Mr. J. H. TULLY,

The SCENERY by the Messrs. GRIEVE.

The Decorations and Appointments by Mr. W. BRADWELL,

The Dresses by Mesdames GLOVER and RAYNER.

Pollio, (a Roman Pro-Consul,) Mr W. HARRISON,

Flavius, (a Centurion,) Mr CLEMENT WHITE,

Oroveso, (the Arch Druid,) Mr LEFFLER,

Norma..(a Druidess).. Miss ADELAIDE KEMBLE,

(Her 20th Appearance upon the English Stage.)

Adalgisa, ...Miss RAINFORTH,

Clotilda, Miss GRANT,

Children, Miss A. PAYNE and Miss TURNER.

Gaulish Chiefs, Druids, Bards, Druidesses, &c.

After which, the Historical Drama of

CHARLES XII.

Charles the Twelfth, Mr W. FARREN,

Adam Brock ..... Mr BARTLEY,

Major Vanberg, Mr COOPER,

Triptolemus Muddlewerk .....Mr HARLEY,

Gustavus, Mr J. VINING,

Colonel Reichel ..... Mr WIGAN,

General Duckert, Mr HODGES,

First Officer .....Mr HUGHES,

Second Officer, Mr COLLETT,

Sentinel, Mr BURT, Clerk, Mr KERRIDGE,

Eudiga, Madame VESTRIS,

In which Character she will sing "*RISE GENTLE MOON.*"

Ulrica, Miss COOPER.

To-morrow, Court and City, The United Service, and The Wooden Leg.

Theatre Royal, English Opera.

THIS EVENING,

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

Conductor, Sig. NEGRI.

Leader, M. TOLBECQUE.

Solo Performers—Messrs. M. Deloffre, Patey, Pilet, Howell, Collinet, Barrett, Baumann, Lazarus, Jarrett, Laurent, Jun., Muller, &c.

PROGRAMME

PART I

Overture .. Semiramide .. Rossini

Waltz .... Cacilian .... Strauss

Cavatina del Barbiere di Seviglia .. Rossini

Performed on the Bassoon, by Mr BAUMANN.

Quadrille .... Polichinelle .... Musard

Solo, Violin, Mons. Deloffre.

Selection from "Macbeth."

Quadrille .... Le Cent Suisse ... Musard

Cornet Obligato, Mr LAURENT, jun.

Trombone, Mr. MASON,

PART II

Fantasia on 'Don Giovanni.'

Waltz .. Brandhofen .. Labitzsky

Grand Duo of 'Guillaume Tell' (as sung by Signori Rubini and Lablache) .... Rossini

Cornet Obligato, Mr. LAURENT, jun.

Ophycleide do. Mons. PROSPERE.

Overture .... Le Pre aux Clercs, ... Auber

Quadrille .. Victoria .. Musard

(Dedicated to the Queen of England.)

New Galop .. .. Muller

Admission, One Shilling,

Doors Open at Half-past Seven, the Concert commences at Eight and terminates at Eleven.

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